

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of controlling a component of a home management system at a residence, comprising  
determining resident activities of a resident of the residence; and  
5 controlling the component based on the determined resident activities of the resident.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein determining resident activities of a resident comprises collecting information on activity schedules of residents of the  
10 residence utilizing an electronic calendar.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein controlling the component comprises:  
selecting a video insertion to replace a commercial advertising portion of a  
15 video stream based on the determined activities of the resident;  
detecting a commercial advertising portion of the video stream; and  
replacing the detected commercial advertising portion of the video stream with the selected video insertion so as to provide a composite video stream containing primary content portions and the selected video insertion.  
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4. The method of Claim 3, wherein selecting a video insertion comprises selecting an advertisement associated with the determined activities of the resident.
- 25 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein determining activities of a resident comprises:  
maintaining an activities schedule for the resident; and  
determining whether the resident is present at the residence based on the resident's activities schedule.  
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6. The method of Claim 5, wherein controlling the component comprises controlling access to video programming and/or network information

based on the resident's activities schedule.

7. The method according to Claim 2, wherein controlling the component based on the determined resident activities of the resident comprises  
5 controlling at least one home management component of the home management system based on the information collected on the activity schedules of the residents.

8. A computer program product comprising a computer readable  
10 medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program code being configured to carry out the method of Claim 1.

9. A method of displaying a video stream containing commercial  
15 advertising portions and primary content portions on a television at a residence, comprising:  
detecting a commercial advertising portion of the video stream; and  
replacing the detected commercial advertising portion of the video stream  
with a video stream from a source component located at the residence so as to  
20 provide a composite video stream containing primary content portions and at least one locally generated portion.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein the video stream comprises at least  
one of a camera output and/or a status display.  
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11. The method of Claim 9, wherein the video stream comprises a video  
stream from a baby monitor.

12. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:  
30 collecting information on activity schedules of the residents of the residence;  
analyzing the activities reflected in the collected information; and

selecting the video stream from the source component located at the residence based on the analysis of the collected information.

13. The method of Claim 12, wherein the information on activity  
5 schedules is collected utilizing a calendar application.

14. The method of Claim 9, further comprising:  
collecting information on resident activities;  
analyzing the resident activities reflected in the collected information; and  
10 selecting the video stream from the source component located at the residence based on the analysis of the collected information.

15. A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer  
15 readable program code being configured to carry out the method of Claim 9.

16. A method of generating demographic data for residents of a residence for use in selecting video content for presentation to the residents, comprising:  
20 collecting information on activity schedules of the residents of the household;  
analyzing the activities reflected in the collected information; and  
selecting video content for presentation to the residents on a television  
based on the analysis of the collected information.

25 17. The method of Claim 16, wherein the information on activity schedules is collected utilizing a calendar application.

18. The method of Claim 16, wherein analyzing and selecting  
30 comprises:  
transmitting at least a portion of the collected information to a central entity; and

receiving video content for presentation to the residents from the central entity.

19. The method of Claim 18, wherein the central entity carries out the  
5 steps of:

evaluating the transmitted information to determine at least one interest of the resident;

selecting at least one advertiser based on the determined interest; and

10 forwarding an advertising clip associated with the at least one advertiser to the residence.

20. The method of Claim 19, wherein the central entity requests and receives a plurality of advertising clips, the method further comprising:

15 generating a program package incorporating the plurality of advertising clips; and

sending the program package to the residence.

21. The method of Claim 16, wherein analyzing the collected information comprises analyzing the collected information so as to determine an  
20 interest of a resident associated with the collected information.

22. A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program code being configured to carry out the method of Claim 16.  
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23. A method of determining a user of a video display device, comprising:

collecting information on activity schedules of the residents of the residence; and

30 identifying at least one of the residents of the residence as the user of the video display device based on the collected information.

24. The method of Claim 23, wherein the information on activity schedules is collected utilizing a calendar application.
25. The method of Claim 23, further comprising selecting video content  
5 for display on a display device based on the identified at least one resident.
26. The method of Claim 23, wherein identifying at least one resident comprises eliminating from a list of possible users residents that the activity schedule information indicates are not present at the residence.  
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27. The method of Claim 26, further comprising:  
collecting information on resident activities associated with corresponding residents;  
analyzing the resident activities reflected in the collected information to  
15 identify interests of the corresponding residents; and  
wherein identifying at least one resident further comprises select a user from the list of possible users based on the interests of the residents and the content of video to be displayed on the display device.
28. The method of Claim 27, wherein collecting information on resident activities comprises collecting information utilizing a calendar application.  
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29. A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer  
25 readable program code being configured to carry out the method of Claim 23.
30. A method of controlling components in a home management system, comprising:  
maintaining a central repository of residence information for use by more  
30 than one component of the home management system; and  
determining an action to control a component of the home management system based on an analysis of residence information maintained in the central

repository.

31. The method of Claim 30, wherein the residence information comprises demographic information of residents, resident activity information and activity schedules of residents.

32. The method of Claim 30, wherein determining an action to control a component of the home management system comprises selecting a video insertion to replace a commercial advertising portion of a video stream based on the information stored in the central repository, the method further comprising:  
detecting a commercial advertising portion of the video stream; and  
replacing the detected commercial advertising portion of the video stream with the selected video insertion so as to provide a composite video stream containing primary content portions and the selected video insertion.

33. The method of Claim 32, wherein selecting a video insertion comprises:  
transmitting at least a portion of the information from the central repository to a central entity; and  
receiving video content for presentation to the residents from the central entity.

34. The method of Claim 33, wherein the central entity carries out the steps of:  
evaluating the transmitted information to determine at least one interest of the resident;  
selecting at least one advertiser based on the determined interest;  
requesting an advertising clip from the at least one advertiser;  
receiving an advertising client from the at least one advertiser responsive to the request; and  
forwarding the received advertising clip to the residence.

35. The method of Claim 34, wherein the central entity requests and receives a plurality of advertising clips, the method further comprising:  
generating a program package incorporating the plurality of advertising clips; and  
5 sending the program package to the residence.
36. The method of Claim 32, wherein selecting an insertion comprises:  
analyzing information from the central repository so as to determine an interest of a resident associated with the information; and  
10 selecting a video insertion based on the determined interest of the resident.
37. The method of Claim 30, wherein determining an action comprises determining an action to control at least one of a home automation system, a parental control system, a security system, a network firewall, a video system, an  
15 audio system, a telephone system and/or a residence monitoring system.
38. The method of Claim 30, further comprising controlling access to the central repository with a common interface through which application programs communicate with the central repository.  
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39. A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein, the computer readable program code being configured to carry out the method of Claim 30.
- 25 40. A home management system, comprising:  
a central repository of residence information;  
a family information manager configured to provide access to the central repository of residence information; and  
a plurality of home management application program configured to retrieve  
30 information from and/or store information in the central repository.
41. The home management system of Claim 40, further comprising a

family information portal configured to provide an interface to the plurality of application programs.

42. The home management system of Claim 40, further comprising a  
5 direct media insertion technology (DMIT) module configured to control the content of media distributed to devices managed by the home management system.

43. The home management system of Claim 42, wherein the DMIT  
10 module is further configured to block access to media based on information in the central repository.

44. The home management system of Claim 42, wherein the DMIT is  
further configured to insert advertisements into media distributed to devices  
managed by the home management system based on information in the central  
15 repository.

45. The home management system of Claim 42, wherein the DMIT is  
further configured to replace advertisements in media distributed to devices  
managed by the home management system with alternative media content based on  
20 information in the central repository.

46. The home management system of Claim 40, wherein at least one of  
the application programs comprises a calendar application for tracking activities of  
users of the home management system.  
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47. The home management system of Claim 40, wherein at least one of  
the application programs comprises a services module configured to provide  
sharing services that control the flow of information from the central repository, an  
update module that provides for updating the central repository, a Family  
30 Information Scheduling (FIS) module that provides a Family Calendar that tracks family activities, appointments and/or tasks, a Family Advertising System (FAS) module that provides tailored advertising and/or control over advertising, a Kitchen



Information System (KIS)/Gourmet module provides recipes, menu planning and/or inventory functions, a Medical Information System (MIS) module that provides medical information, maintenance , control over medical records and/or exercise schedules/routines, a Landscape Information System (LIS) module that controls the schedule of maintenance and/or irrigation systems, a School Interface System (SIS) module that tracks assignments and/or activities and/or a Family Automation Control (FAC) module that controls home automation systems.

48. The home management system of Claim 40, wherein the plurality of application programs comprise at least two application programs configured to use information provided by the other one of the two application programs.

49. The home management system of Claim 48, wherein the information used the one of the two application programs that is provided by the other one of the two application programs is stored in the central repository.

50. A system for controlling a component of a home management system at a residence, comprising  
means for determining resident activities of a resident of the residence; and  
means for controlling the component based on the determined resident activities of the resident.

51. A system for displaying a video stream containing commercial advertising portions and primary content portions on a television at a residence, comprising:  
means for detecting a commercial advertising portion of the video stream;  
and  
means for replacing the detected commercial advertising portion of the video stream with a video stream from a source component located at the residence so as to provide a composite video stream containing primary content portions and at least one locally generated portion.

52. A system for generating demographic data for residents of a residence for use in selecting video content for presentation to the residents, comprising:
- means for collecting information on activity schedules of the residents of the household;
  - means for analyzing the activities reflected in the collected information; and
  - means for selecting video content for presentation to the residents on a television based on the analysis of the collected information.
53. A system for determining a user of a video display device, comprising:
- means for collecting information on activity schedules of the residents of the residence; and
  - means for identifying at least one of the residents of the residence as the user of the video display device based on the collected information.
54. A system for controlling components in a home management system, comprising:
- means for maintaining a central repository of residence information for use by more than one component of the home management system; and
  - means for determining an action to control a component of the home management system based on an analysis of residence information maintained in the central repository.